

**CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY:
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11 June 2019.**

President **Graham Harker** opened the meeting at 19.35 hours and welcomed the 10 members present for the **American Civil War** display by **Colin Evans**.



The reasons for the Civil War were partly economic but principally brought about by the election of the anti-slavery President, Abraham Lincoln in November 1860 which led to the secession of 7 slave states from the Union. These were Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Texas. These 7 confederate states attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina prompting the North to mobilise and

march south which brought four more states Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas into the Confederation by July 1861.

The Confederate States had difficulty with the postal services through paper shortages and no stamps being available as the Union stamps were the only ones on offer. They went through a stamp-less period followed by postmaster provisionals. The first stamps were produced locally in Richmond by lithography the first one being 5c green followed by 10c blue, 5c blue and 10c rose. They eventually had stamps printed by De La Rue in England but the ship, the Bermuda, carrying the stamps was captured and the stamps confiscated. Eventually a northern printer produced stamps for them.

Many patriotic covers were issued during the Civil War and covers were shown from both sides of the conflict, some of them quite rare. Quantities of adversity mail were shown where envelopes were used twice or made from any paper that was available, including advertising material.

Examples of stamps and varieties from all periods of the Civil War were shown including perf. and imperf., unused and used on cover.

The North financed the war by introducing 28 new taxes. Coinage disappeared and stamps stuck on circular card or otherwise encased were used as small change. There were also postage currency notes issued, both perf. and imperf. depicting images of stamps.

President **Graham Harker** gave the vote of thanks to **Colin** remarking on the quality and variety of the American Civil War material displayed and the succinct explanations he gave on the topic. Following viewing of the material by members the meeting came to a close at 21.10 hours.

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Brian Asquith & Graham Harker
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